



**advantage**  
**boating** 

## Section I: Part C – Terms & Definitions Sails

# Lesson Outline



- Lesson objectives
- Introduction
- Sail terminology
- Summary
- Quiz

# Lesson Objectives



- In this lesson you will learn the basic terminology and lingo used to describe sails.
- You need to understand the language of sailing and be able to identify the key areas and parts of the boat before you can begin to learn how to sail.
- These terms and parts will be referred to throughout the program in the courseware and on the water.

# Introduction



- In Section 1, Part A, you reviewed the basic terminology and parts of a sailboat.
- In Section 1, Part B, you learned about structure, rigging and docking terms.
- For this lesson, you will learn the specific terms used with sails.

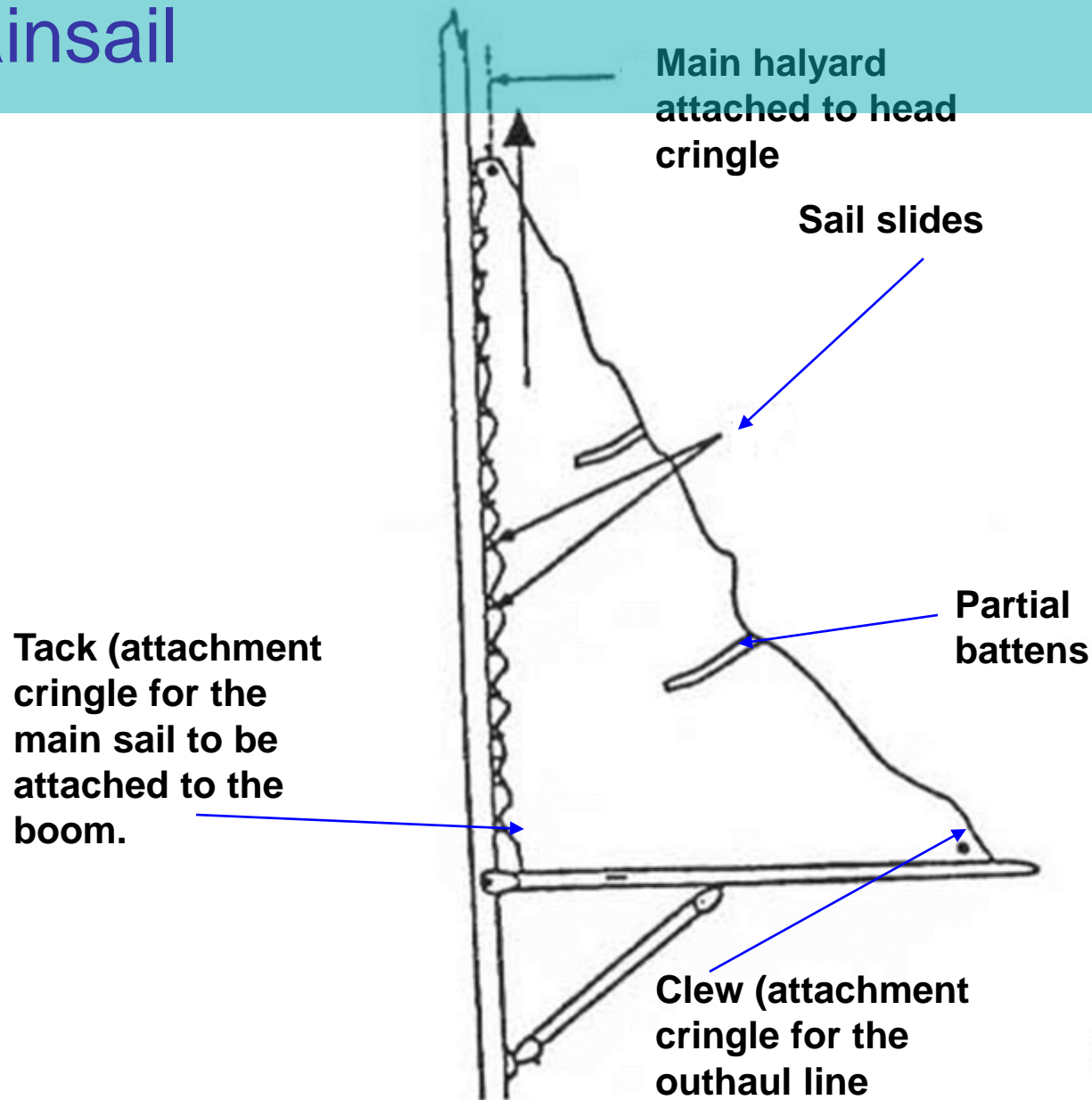
*So let's begin!*



- Sails are classified into three types:
  - Mainsail
  - Headsail or foresail
  - Spinnaker or downwind sail (sometimes called a Kite)
- Other sails used for unique situations are often a variation of the three main categories
- For more information on sails checkout <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sail>



# Mainsail



# Foresail options - genoa

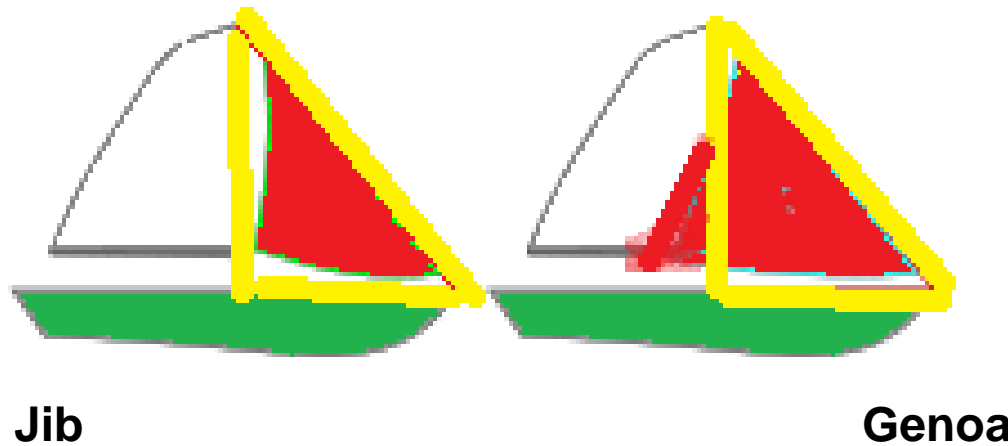


- The **genoa** is a type of large jib that overlaps the main sail; it is attached to the forestay.
- A genoa's larger surface area increases the speed of the vessel in light to moderate winds.
- A working jib is smaller in size than a genoa and would normally be used in heavier winds.
- Foretriangle is area between forestay, mast and deck (technically an imaginary line between tack and perpendicular direction to base of the mast).

# Foresail options - genoa



- Genoas are categorized by a percentage representing their area *relative to the 100% foretriangle* (which is outlined in yellow).

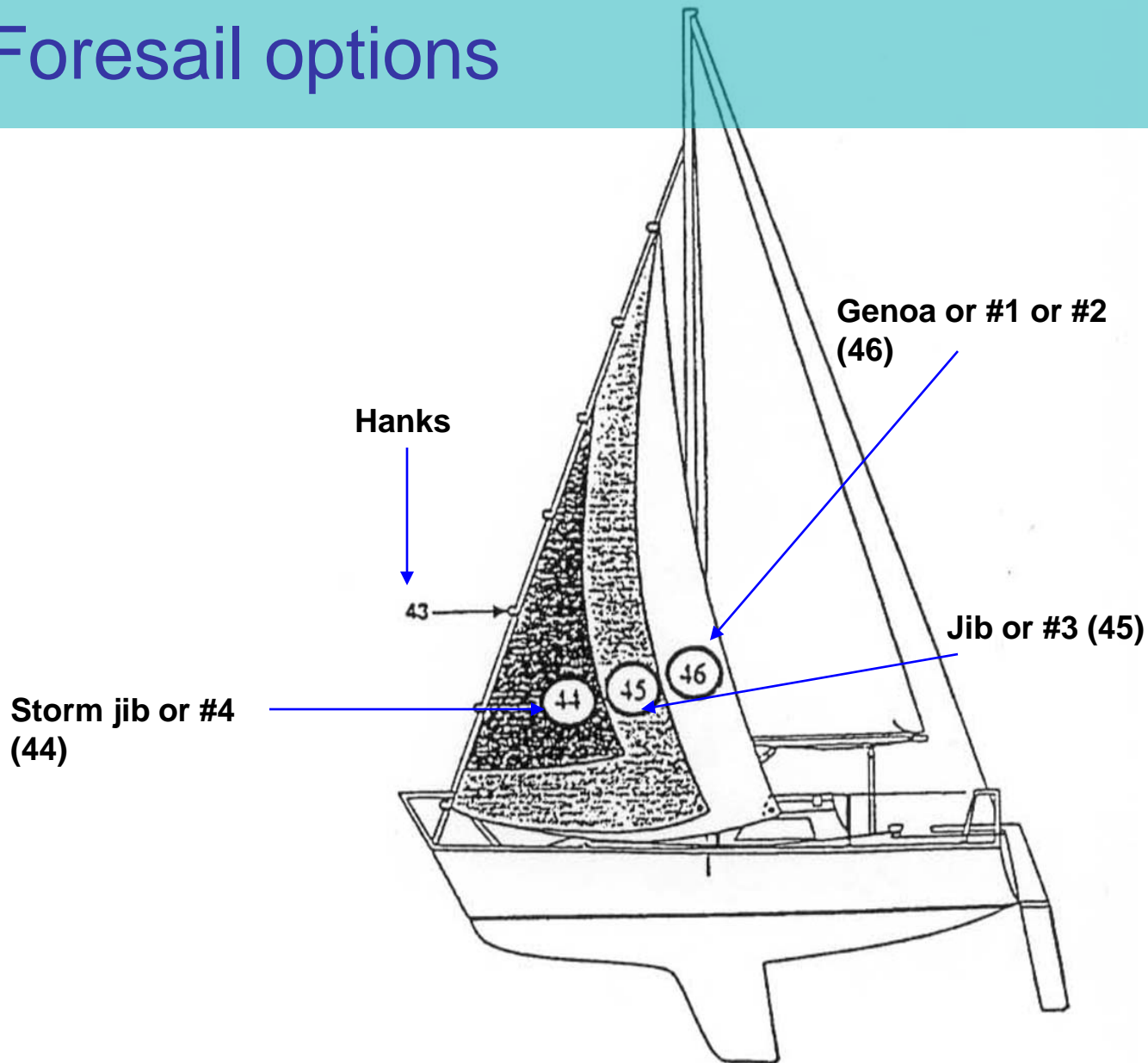






- Genoas are classified by their size. For example:
  - #1 genoas are approximately 155%
  - #2 genoas are generally 125%-140%
- Working jibs are also defined using the same logic, typically 85% or less of the foretriangle.

# Foresail options



Genoa or #1 or #2  
(46)

Fractional  
Rig

Jib or #3 (45)

Storm jib or #4  
(44)

Hanks

43

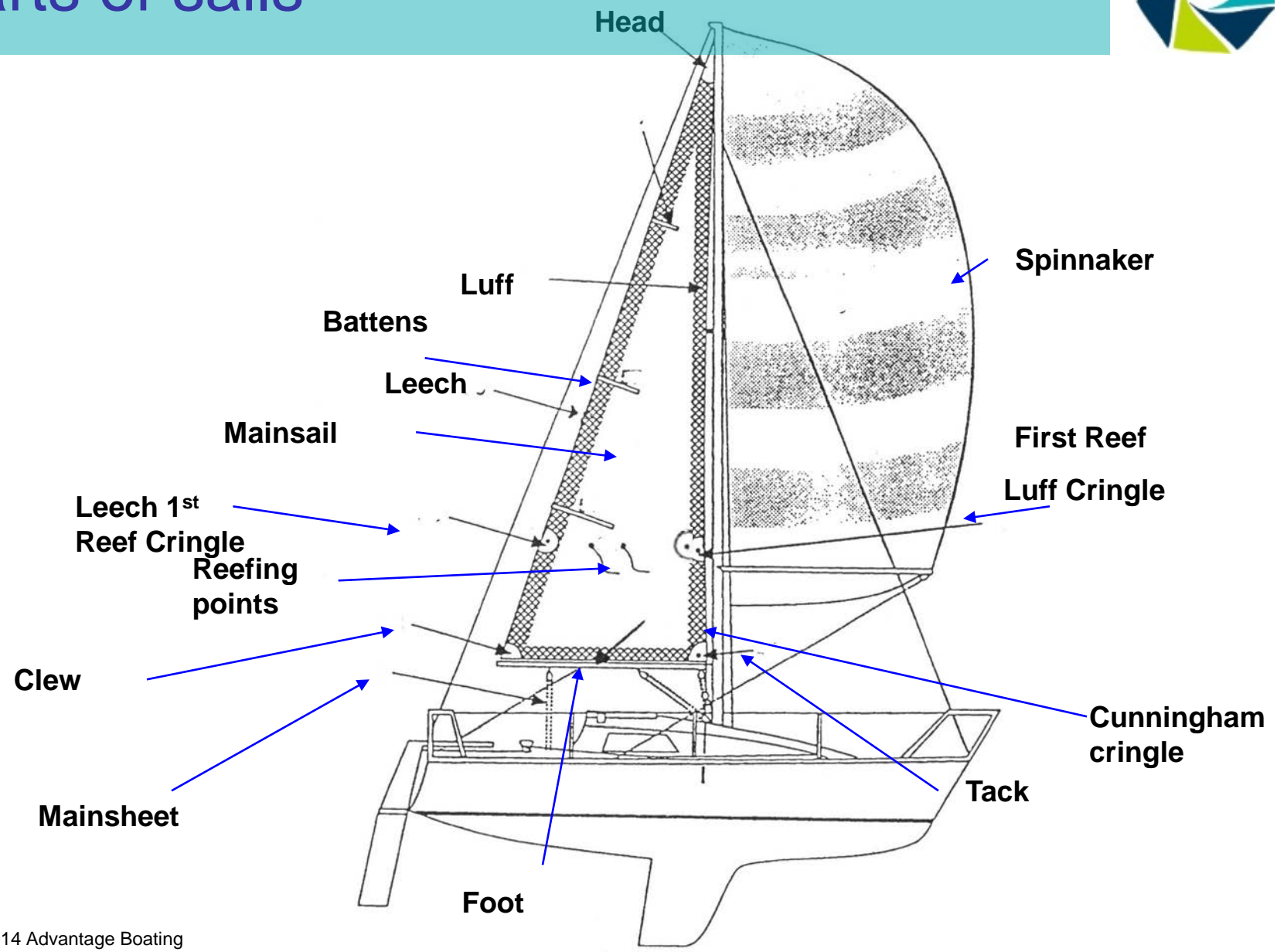
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45

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# Parts of sails

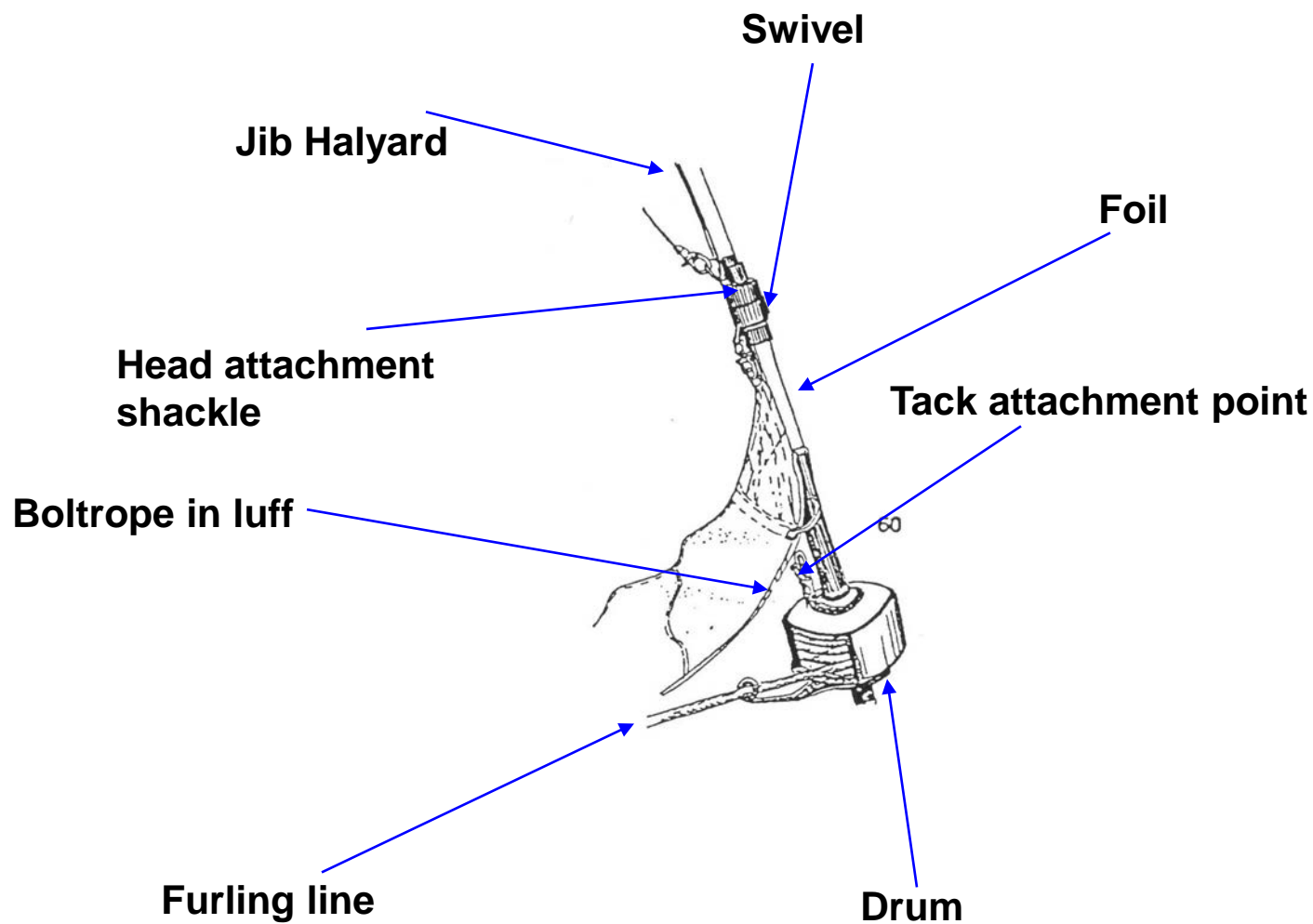


# Hanked on versus roller furling sails

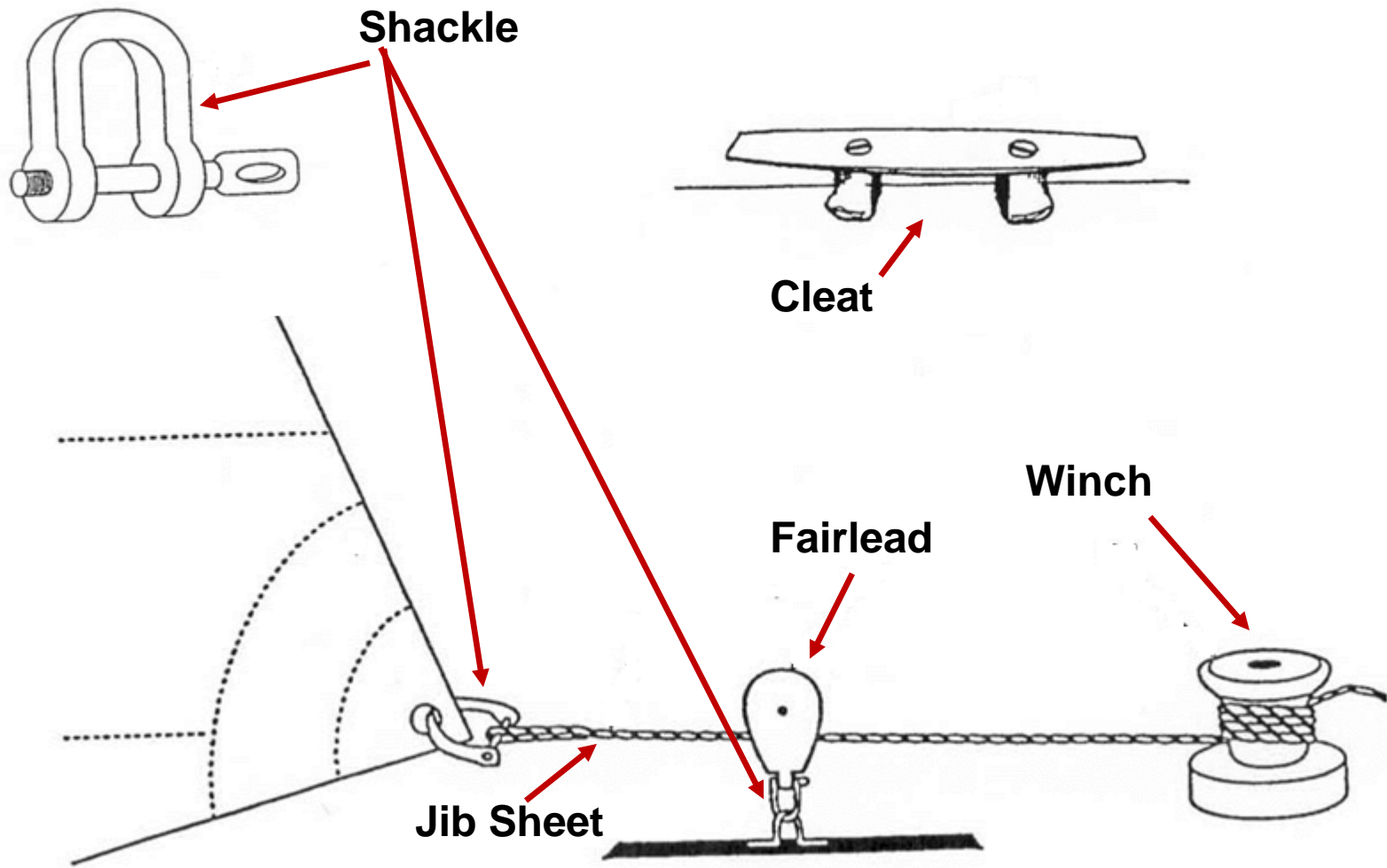


- Hanked on sails must be pulled up and down manually. Hanked on sails usually have a better airfoil shape and therefore perform better.
- Roller furling means the sails can be rolled up or unfurled from the cockpit. Furled sails are easier to handle and are a great addition to cruising boats.

# Roller furling



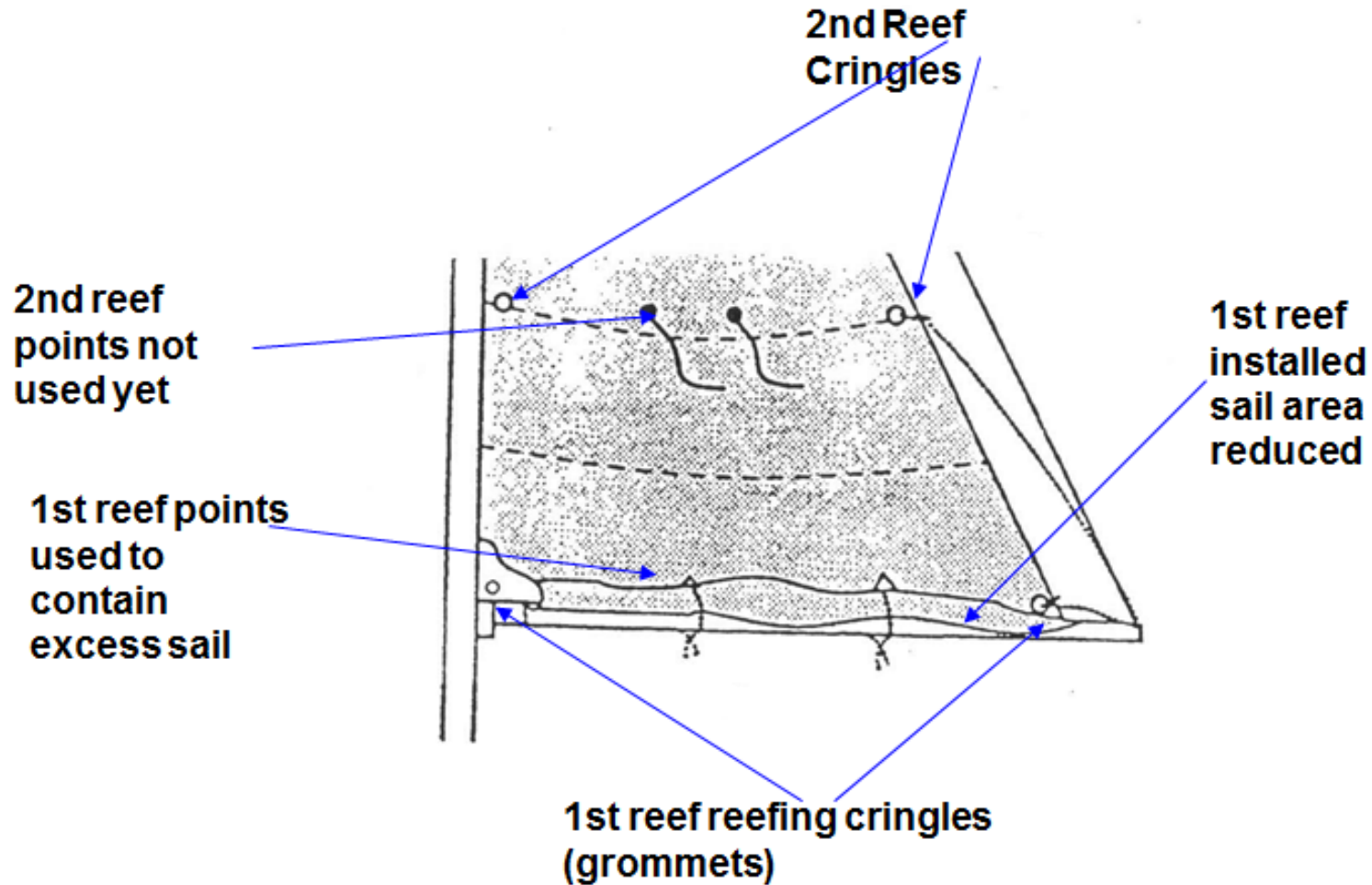
# Running rigging





- Reefing means to reduce the size of the mainsail and headsails so that, as the wind increases, the wind's force on the sails is reduced which in turn reduces heeling or tipping of the boat.
- Generally, as the wind strength increases, you reduce (reef) the amount of sail you have up, thereby reducing the forces on the boat and making your sail more comfortable.

# Jiffy slab reefing





# Reefing points guidance



Important! Do not tie the reefing point lines tight.

Tie them “more like a cradle” as opposed to the reefing lines at luff and leech, which should be as tight as you can get them.

# Summary



- In this lesson, you learned the basic terminology for sails.

# Next steps!



You are now familiar with the basic lingo and terminology of sailing.

In the next lesson, Section 1 – Part D, you will begin to explore the vessel's relationship with the wind.

Having an understanding of wind speed and direction and how that affects the sails is important to learn in order to sail successfully.

# Let's practice!



- Complete the following quiz to test your knowledge of boat parts and terms.



- Select the correct word: “Reefing means to *reduce/increase* the size of the mainsail and headsails so that, as the wind increases, the wind’s force on the sails is *reduced/increased* which in turn reduces heeling or tipping of the boat.
- What are the three main categories of sails?
- Select the right word: A genoa’s larger surface area *increases/decreases* the speed of the vessel in light to moderate winds.